

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

October 31, 1969

Mr. President:

Attached is the brief reference to change in mission drafted by Secretary Laird today.

18 /
Henry A. Kissinger

Attachment

DOS, OSD Reviews
Completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

The Mission Statement, to which our commanders in the field looked for guidance, had called essentially for military victory over the enemy forces. That Mission Statement has been changed in accordance with my May 14 speech. The Mission Statement now charges our commanders with the task of assisting the Republic of Vietnam armed forces, to the point they will be able to assume, not only the primary but also the complete security role in South Vietnam.